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**COOPERATIVE WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS.**

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES,  
COOPERATING.

STATES RELATIONS SERVICE, OFFICE OF  
EXTENSION WORK, NORTH AND WEST,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

**BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK.****SUGGESTIONS TO LOCAL LEADERS IN POULTRY-CLUB WORK.**

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If you are contemplating the organization of a boys' and girls' poultry club in your community, write to the State leader in charge of the club work at the agricultural college, asking for complete directions and cooperation in the work. The State leader, an experienced leader of boys and girls, will be able to assist you to succeed in this work. The State college of agriculture will supply the printed follow-up instructions, the standard requirement for poultry club work in the State, enrollment forms, report blanks, and possibly record books. Communicate also with the county club leader or county agents as well as county superintendent of schools and make inquiry regarding the organization of clubs in your county.

When you have learned the plans of the State and county club leader, the county agents, and the county superintendent of schools, you will then be ready to take up the work in your community.

**PRESENTING CLUB WORK TO THE COMMUNITY.**

Get a small group of interested citizens together and discuss with them the plans for club work. Secure the services of the State or county club leader to explain the value of this work at a general meeting of citizens, including teachers. The services of the State club leader should be arranged for at least one month in advance of the date for the meeting. At the close of the meeting request the parents and children interested in the poultry-club work to assemble at the front of the room to discuss plans for organization of a poultry club and securing a local leader for the club group. Get the names and addresses of boys and girls who desire to enter the club. Make a record also of interested adults.

**PRELIMINARY MEETING.**

Call a meeting of the boys and girls who desire to join the poultry club and go over with them in detail the requirements for membership. Give every prospective member an opportunity to talk and tell what he has now or may have available for the home project work. Have each member list things required before he may become a member, and require that these be secured before November 1.

**ORGANIZATION MEETING.**

About November 1 call the members together and go over with them the requirements for membership, accepting as members the applicants who have enrolled, signed agreement cards, and otherwise met the organization requirements.

Elect officers and place as much responsibility upon them as possible. The prime object of boys' and girls' club work is to develop local leadership and responsibility through wise direction and encouragement of the boys and girls. Forward a list of officers and members to the State leaders immediately upon organization of the club. State club leaders may furnish a "charter" to each club.



## FOLLOW-UP INSTRUCTIONS, PRINTED FORMS AND REPORTS.

The State leader will send by mail to the club members and local leader the necessary follow-up instruction, printed forms, and report blanks. These blanks will be accompanied by adequate instructions for use. The secretary of the club should be the custodian of permanent records and should inspect all reports made to the State or district leaders.

The follow-up instructions will be seasonal, bringing to the club member the information that he will need at once. Too much literature destroys the interest of the member and takes the "edge" off the work for the rest of the year and the efficiency away from the system of follow-up instructions. One piece of follow-up literature carefully studied and put into practice is much better than information from several sources that is conflicting and confusing. Do not confuse children with literature from several subject-matter specialists, instructors, and instructions that do not agree on the details of doing poultry work.

## SERVICES OF POULTRY HUSBANDRY SPECIALIST.

The State club leader is in a sense a specialist in extension methods and in the organization of boys and girls into clubs to carry on project work. He has the services of subject-matter specialists who are trained in the poultry work. The poultry specialist whose services are available will meet with your club and go over the poultry project with the members. The specialist devotes all his time to instruction and direction of leaders and members in their poultry business. He should not be called upon to take up problems in organization or to deal with methods of general extension work. The specialist may also help the local club leader to become expert in poultry management.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR A COMPLETED POULTRY PROJECT.

1. Local club must be organized before November 1.
2. A local leader is required for the group of members.
3. Each member must have at least six hens and a male bird.
4. Each member must have adequate housing facilities for poultry.
5. Each member must keep an egg record, also all records of costs of feed and receipts from sales.
6. Each member must be personally responsible for the hatching of at least 50 chicks before May 15.
7. Each member must make an exhibit of fowls, eggs, and record book or report.
8. Each member must attend all meetings of the club.
9. Each member must attend all field meetings held by the club.
10. Each member must prepare a written report and story of his work.

## EMBLEMS—UNIFORMS.

The four-leaf clover with the 4 H's upon the leaves has come to be the recognized trademark of boys' and girls' club work. It has created a large and growing fraternity of achievement known and recognized throughout the United States.

For demonstration work each club member should have a suitable club uniform displaying the club emblem.

## MEETINGS.

The following program is suggestive and will serve as a guide for monthly meetings and demonstrations. No meeting should be more than one and one-half hours long. If meetings are held in the evening they should begin at an early hour and the adjournment should be prompt. Bulletins similar to those mentioned are usually available at the State colleges of agriculture.



**NOVEMBER MEETING.**

1. (Twenty minutes.) Organization of club. Election of officers.  
Local leader instructs officers in duties.  
Report from club members to find if requirements are met and that each member has—
  - (a) Male bird and six hens.
  - (b) Standard bred or not.
  - (c) Adequate housing facilities.
2. (Forty minutes.) Explanation of club requirements by local club leader:
  - (a) Meetings.
  - (b) Records.
  - (c) Demonstrations.
  - (d) Hatching.
  - (e) Exhibits.
  - (f) Reports.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Club members discuss use of follow-up instructions on housing and feeding.  
Discussion, purpose of leg bands and trap nests. Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 682, "A Simple Trap Nest for Poultry."  
Distribution of December follow-up instructions, "Selection and care of breeding stock."

**DECEMBER MEETING.**

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Reports of members to secretary: Feed, egg production, arrangement of poultry house, scratch litter.  
Discussion, "Feeding for egg production." Supplement with United States Department Circular 17, "Winter Egg Production."  
Exhibition of record books and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Discussion on "Standard of Perfection<sup>1</sup> as applied to birds owned by club members."  
Contest in naming parts of birds based on terms used in "Standard of Perfection."  
Talk by poultry club members, "How to set a hen."
3. (Thirty minutes.) Discussion, "Early hatched chicks make early layers."  
Debate, "Resolved, that it is more profitable to raise pure-bred fowls than mongrels."  
Distribution of January follow-up instructions, "How to set a hen and care for her."

**JANUARY MEETING.**

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Report of members to secretary.  
Exhibition of record books and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Packing eggs for market. Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 594, "Shipping Eggs by Parcel Post."  
Feed and care of chicks. Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 642, "Artificial and Natural Brooding of Chickens."  
Feeding capons before sending to market. Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 452 "Capon and Caponizing."  
Relative merits of hen and incubator for hatching. Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 585, "Artificial and Natural Incubation of Hens' Eggs."
3. (Thirty minutes.) Talk by member. Feed and care of breeding pens.  
Distribution of February follow-up instructions, "Feeding and caring for chicks."

**FEBRUARY MEETING.**

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Members' report to secretary.  
Exhibition of record books. Discussion.
2. (Forty minutes.) Talk by club members having largest egg yield during month.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Poultry play contests.  
Continued discussion of feed and care of chicks.  
Distribution of March follow-up instructions, "How to build a brood coop."

**MARCH MEETING.**

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Members' report to secretary.  
Exhibition of record books and discussion of entries.

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<sup>1</sup> The American Standard of Perfection is published by the American Poultry Association, Mrs. S. T. Campbell, secretary, Mansfield, Ohio.

2. (Forty minutes.) Diseases of chicks. Prevention and treatment.  
Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 530, "Important Poultry Diseases."  
Discussion, "Feeding chicks for early maturity."
3. (Thirty minutes.) Demonstration of building a brooding coop.  
Distribution of April follow-up instructions, "Lice and mites," "Produce infertile eggs," "Preserving eggs."

#### APRIL MEETING (AFTERNOON).

1. (Forty minutes.) Roll call.  
Members' report to secretary.  
Exhibition of record books. Discussion.  
Discussion, "Treatment of lice and mites." Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 801, "Mites and Lice on Poultry."
2. Field demonstration tour (afternoon) to club members' poultry yards, observing:
  - (a) Cleanliness of house and premises as a preventative of insect pests and disease.
  - (b) Condition of birds.
  - (c) Record of member.
  - (d) Method of feeding.
  - (e) Method of hatching and brooding.
3. Camp supper—egg feast and contest. (Plan to have members at home not later than 7 p. m.)  
Distribution of May follow-up instructions, "Care of growing chicks during warm weather."

#### MAY MEETING.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Members' report to secretary.  
Exhibition of record books and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Reading written reports of field demonstration tour by club members.  
Recommendation by club members and leader.  
Production of infertile eggs. Supplement with United States Department of Agriculture "Egg Placard."  
Study of prices of eggs for year to determine time for packing in water glass.  
Selling broilers and friers.
3. Play contests, guessing games.  
Distribution of June follow-up instructions, "Marketing old stock and broilers."

#### JUNE MEETING.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Members' report to secretary.  
Exhibition of record books. Discussion.
  2. (Forty minutes.) Practice for public demonstration. Preserving eggs in water glass.
  3. (Thirty minutes.) Exhibition display of feathers arranged by members.
- June meeting.—Public demonstration (afternoon).

1. (Twenty minutes.) Business meeting.
2. (Forty minutes.) Demonstrations in—
  - (a) Setting a hen.
  - (b) Packing eggs for market—parcel post.
  - (c) Killing and dry picking.
  - (d) Selection of a good laying hen.
  - (e) Mixing grain feed.
  - (f) Mixing dry mash.
  - (g) Preparing green feed.
  - (h) Canning cockerels.
 (Be sure that members clean up after demonstration.)
3. (Thirty minutes.) Informal discussion and questions.  
Distribution of July follow-up instructions, "Caponizing."

#### JULY MEETING.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Members' report to secretary.  
Exhibit of record books and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Demonstration. Caponizing. Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 452, "Caponizing."
3. (Thirty minutes.) Social program. Refreshments.  
Distribution of August follow-up instructions, "Preparing birds for the show."



**AUGUST MEETING.**

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Members' report to secretary.  
Exhibit of record books. Discussion.
2. (Forty minutes.) Selection of stock from which a fowl is to be exhibited. Have judging contest by members.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Discussion: "Culling out late maturing fowls and poor layers. How to fatten them for market."  
Social program.  
Distribution of September follow-up instructions, "Common poultry diseases."

**SEPTEMBER MEETING.**

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Members' report to secretary.  
Exhibit of record books. Discussion.
2. (Forty minutes.) Making plans for the exhibit. (If possible cooperate with local poultry association.)  
Discussion of Standard of Perfection as applied to fowls owned and to be exhibited by club members.  
Selection of a bird for the exhibit, disqualification, defects, etc. A good exhibit consists of the following:
  - (a) The birds.
  - (b) Demonstrations by team members.
  - (c) Judging contests by team of members.
  - (d) Demonstration contest in caponizing, killing and dry picking, packing eggs, etc., by members.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Discussion by members: Roup, chicken pox—prevention and treatment.  
Distribution of October follow-up instructions, "Feeding and housing winter layers."

**OCTOBER MEETING.**

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call.  
Report of members to secretary.  
Discussion and partial completion of report of club to State and county leader.  
Demonstration of killing and dry picking.  
Preparing fowls for winter quarters. Housing. Supplement with Farmers' Bulletin 574, "Poultry House Construction."
3. (Thirty minutes.) Social program. Poultry games, contests, etc.  
Distribution of November follow-up instructions "Trap-nesting the layers."

**NOVEMBER MEETING.**

## Achievement Day.

1. Address—Youth Achievement is our Education. By a business man who can talk achievement.
2. Address—How Improve the Poultry Business. By a practical poultryman.
3. Address—What a Parent thinks of the Club Work. By a parent of a club member.
4. Report of club members on achievements of the year. Select at least four members.
5. Awarding of achievement medals. By local club leader, county superintendent of schools, county agent, or State leader of clubs.  
Distribution of December follow-up instructions, "Selection and care of breeding stock."

It is understood that the poultry-club members will be given a chance to drill in parliamentary practice and the proper method of conducting a business session in their club meetings. A few moments' time devoted to this at the beginning of each session will be found very beneficial.

The third division of the program at the regular club meetings can be devoted entirely to social intercourse, if advisable, with a view to the development of the social and the cooperative strength of the club membership. In connection with these 30-minute periods, guessing games, poultry play contests, poultry stories, and other forms of entertainment may be provided.

This type of program will draw upon the resourcefulness and originality of the local leader as well as members. Its success will depend upon ability to organize successfully the play contests and dispatch the program quickly with a view to keeping everybody entertained and interested. Consult with the poultry specialists and poultry subject-matter departments of your State college of agriculture with a view to giving the kind of a program that will be seasonable and furnish to the club membership the kind of instruction they will need in connection with their home project.



## SUMMARY.

1. Get in touch with and secure the cooperation of the State club leader, county agent, and county superintendent of schools.
2. Call a meeting of parents to talk over club work. Have State leader present.
3. Call a meeting of interested boys and girls to discuss club work and things needed for membership.
4. Hold organization meeting and organize club before November 1.
5. Use the printed follow-up instructions furnished. Too much literature destroys the interest for the rest of the year.
6. Secure and use the services of the poultry specialist in club work.
7. Requirements for a completed poultry project:
  - (a) Organize and secure local leader before November 1.
  - (b) Each member must—
    1. Have six hens and a rooster.
    2. Have adequate housing facilities.
    3. Keep an egg record, a feed record, and a record of receipts from sales.
    4. Hatch at least 50 chicks before May 15.
    5. Attend all meetings and field meetings of the club.
    6. Prepare a written story of his work.
8. The 4-H emblem is the recognized trade-mark of boys' and girls' club work.
9. Meetings should be held monthly. Meetings should be short. Begin on time and close early. Parents object to having children away from home late at night. See program outline.

**LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO POULTRY ISSUED BY ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DIVISION,  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

**AVAILABLE FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

Standard Varieties of Chickens. (Farmers' Bulletin 51.)  
 Poultry Management. (Farmers' Bulletin 287.)  
 Pheasant Raising in the United States. (Farmers' Bulletin 390.)  
 Capons and Caponizing. (Farmers' Bulletin 452.)  
 Hints to Poultry Raisers. (Farmers' Bulletin 528.)  
 Important Poultry Diseases. (Farmers' Bulletin 530.)  
 Boys' and Girls' Poultry Clubs. (Farmers' Bulletin 562.)  
 Poultry House Construction. (Farmers' Bulletin 574.)  
 Natural and Artificial Incubation of Hen's Eggs. (Farmers' Bulletin 585.)  
 Natural and Artificial Brooding of Chickens. (Farmers' Bulletin 624.)  
 Simple Trap Nest for Poultry. (Farmers' Bulletin 682.)  
 Squab Raising. (Farmers' Bulletin 684.)  
 Duck Raising. (Farmers' Bulletin 697.)  
 Goose Raising. (Farmers' Bulletin 767.)  
 Turkey Raising. (Farmers' Bulletin 791.)  
 Mites and Lice on Poultry. (Farmers' Bulletin 801.)

**FOR SALE BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS, GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.**

Guinea Fowl and Its Use as Food. (Farmers' Bulletin 234.) Price, 5 cents.  
 Successful Poultry and Dairy Farm. (Farmers' Bulletin 355.) Price, 5 cents.  
 Commercial Fattening of Poultry. (Department Bulletin 21.) Price, 10 cents.  
 Digestion Experiments with Poultry. (Bureau of Animal Industry Bulletin 56.) Price, 20 cents.  
 White Diarrhea of Chicks, with Notes on Coccidiosis in Birds. (Bureau of Animal Industry Circular 128.) Price, 5 cents.  
 A System of Poultry Accounting. (Bureau of Animal Industry Circular 176.) Price, 5 cents.



## CIRCULARS FOR MONTHLY FOLLOW-UP INSTRUCTIONS

January.....How to set a hen and care for her.  
February.....Feeding and care of chicks.  
March.....How to build a brood coop.  
April.....(a) Lice and mites on poultry.  
              (b) Produce the infertile egg.  
              (c) Packing eggs in water glass.  
May.....Care of growing chicks during warm weather.  
June.....Marketing old stock and broilers.  
July.....Capon and caponizing.  
August.....Preparing birds for the show.  
September.....Common poultry diseases.  
October.....Feeding and housing winter layers.  
November.....Trap nests for layers.  
December.....Selection and care of breeding stock.

